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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFIC

Applicants: KOENIG, et al.

Filed: December 14, 2001

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METHOD OF ITS OPERATION

CLAIM FOR PRIORITY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

December 14, 2001

Sir:

For:

Under the provisions of 35 USC §119 AND 37 CFR § 1.55, Applicants hereby claim the right of priority based on Patent Application No. <u>00127451.3</u> filed in <u>Europe</u> on <u>December 14, 2001</u>.

Respectfully submitted,

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CIB/alb